United Nations A/65/807

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 April 2011

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 112 (c)
Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of fifteen members of the Human Rights Council

Note verbale dated 5 April 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations and has the honour to recall that the Government of Indonesia has decided to present its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2011-2014 at the elections to be held in May 2011.

In that regard, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia has the further honour to transmit an aide memoire containing the voluntary pledges and commitments by Indonesia, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/251 (see annex).

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 5 April 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Candidature of Indonesia to the Human Rights Council, 2011-2014

Voluntary pledges and commitments in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/251

1. In the spirit of contributing further to the global promotion and protection of human rights, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia presents its candidature to the Human Rights Council membership of 2011-2014 at the elections to be held during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly in New York in May 2011.

2. Indonesia's 1945 Constitution mandates the Government of Indonesia to actively advance international peace and justice, as well as to promote and protect human rights. Indonesia recognizes that human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated and interdependent and that human rights and civil and political rights as well as economic, social and cultural rights, must be treated globally in a fair and equal manner, in the same footing and with the same emphasis.

3. Indonesia consistently asserts that global promotion and protection of human rights should always be carried out through constructive dialogues and international cooperation, which is aimed at strengthening the capacity of States to comply with their human rights obligations. Indonesia also steadfastly holds the view that advancing the cause of human rights worldwide should be pursued on the basis of principles of objectivity, impartiality, non-selectivity and the elimination of double standards and politicization.

4. Indonesia was a founding member of the Human Rights Council in 2006-2007 and was re-elected in 2007-2010. During its membership in the Human Rights Council, Indonesia played an active and constructive role, including in the institutional development of the Human Rights Council, inter alia, by assuming the vice-presidency of the Human Rights Council (2009-2010).

5. As part of Indonesia's pledges and commitments to the Human Rights Council, Indonesia volunteered to be one of the first countries being reviewed in the universal periodic review process in April 2008. Indonesia has faithfully been implementing most of the accepted recommendations put forward in Indonesia's universal periodic review process, including its voluntary commitments. Furthermore, Indonesia has contributed actively in formulating the technical modalities of the universal periodic review process. Indonesia has also cooperated with the human rights treaty bodies by submitting its periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, as well as its Common Core Document in 2010.

6. Indonesia continues to strengthen its efforts to further promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of its people. Such efforts are guided by five-yearly national human rights action plans, as mandated by the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. Indonesia continues to adopt this approach and is currently entering the third phase of its national human rights action plan.

7. In addition to being a party to most of the core international human rights instruments and to all core human rights conventions of the International Labour Organization, Indonesia has recently signed the two newly adopted human rights instruments, namely the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Indonesian national legislations and regulations are harmonized in accordance with those instruments. The implementation of those ratified instruments is integrated further with Indonesia's national development as well as linked to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

8. To further strengthen its capacity in the promotion and protection of human rights, Indonesia has empowered various machineries, including national human rights institutions. The capacity of central and local authorities is also being strengthened. In the spirit of partnership, the Government of Indonesia has actively engaged civil society organizations in the collective efforts to promote and protect human rights.

9. As the third largest democracy with the world's largest Muslim population, and underpinned by the principle of religious freedom and tolerance, Indonesia is a living proof that democracy and Islam can coexist peacefully, harmoniously and productively. Indonesia also continues to actively promote genuine dialogues to advance human rights causes and to broaden understanding among civilizations, cultures and religions through various bilateral, regional and interregional initiatives, which include the Bali Democracy Forum, Asia-Pacific regional interfaith dialogues, global inter-media dialogues, the International Conference of Islamic Scholars and the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership international conference on capacity-building for Palestine.

10. Indonesia has contributed to and will continue to play a leading role in the efforts to advance human rights causes in the region. Indonesia has played an instrumental role in transforming the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) into a rules-based organization that respects the principles of democracy, fundamental freedoms and the promotion and protection of human rights as enshrined in the ASEAN charter adopted in 2007. In the same vein, Indonesia is a strong proponent for an effective ASEAN intergovernmental commission on human rights.

11. Indonesia has also contributed to the endeavours to promote and protect human rights within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, including through the Independent Commission for Human Rights, and the Non-Aligned Movement.

12. Indonesia will continue its active and constructive engagement in the promotion of universal respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms based on universality, indivisibility, non-selectivity, impartiality, interdependence and interrelationship, which includes the following pledges and commitments:

At the national level:

- As part of the national agenda for the promotion and protection of human rights in Indonesia, the Government of Indonesia will continue to implement its national plan of action on human rights.
- Indonesia will continue to strengthen the human rights machineries at national, provincial, district and municipal levels.

- Indonesia continues to make progress in implementing its human rights laws and regulations, improving the level of coordination and synergy between Government authorities and mechanisms and in strengthening human rights mainstreaming in the policymaking mechanisms at all levels.

- Indonesia continues to strengthen its partnerships with various stakeholders, including national human rights institutions and civil society groups in the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

- Indonesia will continue to step up its national effort and internal coordination towards ratification of some remaining key international human rights treaties.

At the regional and bilateral levels:

- Indonesia will continue to strengthen the work of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights for the promotion and protection of human rights in the region, as well as of other relevant thematic ASEAN human rights commissions, such as the ASEAN Commission on Women and Children.

- Indonesia will continue to promote democratic ideals and to bridge the gaps of political development in Asia by advancing dialogue and practical cooperation, especially through the Bali Democracy Forum — an inclusive and open forum, initiated by Indonesia in 2008, for countries in the region.

- Indonesia will continue to support and contribute to the efforts within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the promotion and protection of human rights in its member countries.

- Indonesia will continue to strengthen and broaden the scope of its bilateral human rights cooperation, dialogue and consultations.

At the international level:

- Indonesia will continue to work and fully cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms.

- With regard to the review process of the Human Rights Council, Indonesia will continue to engage constructively as a bridge-builder and problem-solver, in order to make this body a more credible, effective and respected human rights machinery, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/251.

- Indonesia will also continue to enhance its endeavours to ensure that all human rights, not only civil and political rights but also economic, social and cultural rights, as well as the right to development, are given equal emphasis in the work of the Human Rights Council.

- Indonesia will play a more active role in the promotion of dialogue on human rights and interfaith cooperation at the international and multilateral levels.

- Indonesia with other Member States will continue to mainstream human rights in all the work of the United Nations.

- Indonesia will continue its meaningful cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.